

PRESS RELEASE

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DCR CELEBRATES ACQUISITION OF RANDOLPH PROPERTY WHICH WILL BECOME PART OF BLUE HILLS RESERVATION

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), State Legislators and Town of Randolph officials today celebrated the state's acquisition of a 13.2-acre property (formerly owned by the DiMaura Family) that is one of the largest remaining undeveloped tracts of land in the Greater Boston area.

The property, which is also one of the last remaining large parcels of land flanking the historic Blue Hills range, protects the banks of the Blue Hill River. It features several regionally significant natural and historic resources will be a key addition to DCR's 7,300-acre Blue Hills Reservation. The executive and legislative branches of state government worked in tandem to coordinate the actions of municipal officials, a private land owner, and local conservation groups in securing the property.

"This project is one of the best examples of how great things can happen when citizens work together," said DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington. "The protection of this land would not have been possible without the leadership of the legislative delegation, spearheaded by Senator Brian Joyce, supported every step of the way by the Town of Randolph's elected and appointed officials."

"By purchasing this land, we protected this environmentally-sensitive parcel from development, while preserving much needed open space in the Town of Randolph and demonstrating our statewide commitment to land conservation," said State Senator Brian A. Joyce.

State Representative Bruce Ayers stated, "This is a great victory for the entire Randolph community, including residents and officials who have worked in collaboration to help secure the necessary funds to preserve this property for generations to come. I was proud to be able to play role in preserving this open space in my district."

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"I cannot stress enough how important it is to our community to maintain open space where it is available. With increasing development, this site is a unique and valuable asset to the entire Randolph community and I am extremely pleased that I was able join forces with everyone involved to ensure the successful acquisition of this parcel," stated State Representative Joseph R. Driscoll.

"Seeing the success of our efforts to purchase and preserve this parcel is a true pleasure. It has involved four years of hard work, and I thank everyone who has contributed their time and energy. It has been a true team effort, and I think preserving this land will be a wonderful addition not only to the park, but to the Town of Randolph as well," said State Representative Walter F. Timilty.

The acquisition is part of the nearly 3,000 acres of open space that have been added to the urban park system since 1989.

"In little more than a decade, the Commonwealth has protected well over a square mile of conservation land within what is now called the Blue Hills District of the Department of Conservation and Recreation," added DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington. "These new parks include miles of previously unprotected riverbank along the Neponset River, properties which conserve the habitats of endangered species, and lands which preserve historic resources of national importance."

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